



Mason Co. ATC Summer Career Camp Brings Community Partners Together for Successful Program

"We want every student to have the opportunity to explore their options in education and life."

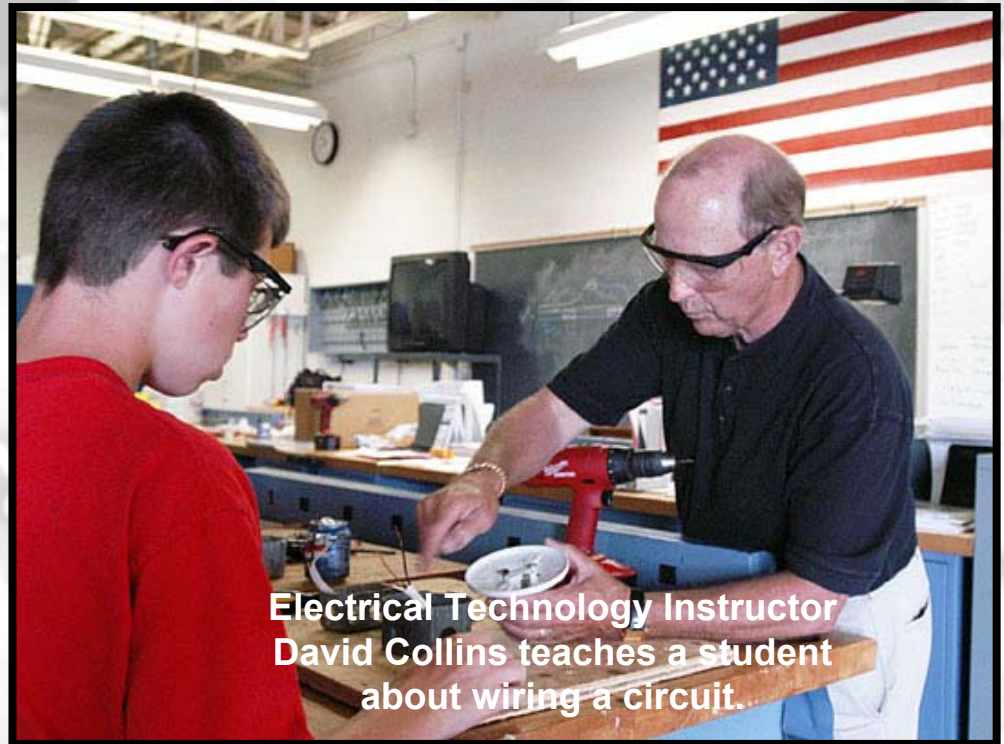
**Juston Pate,
Mason Co. ATC Principal**

Mason Co. ATC, in conjunction with a host of local partners, devised a way to create a career camp that not only involved ATC faculty but the whole community through sessions at the Maysville Community and Technical College (MCTC), visits to the local fire department and other local fiscal government agencies. There were even sessions at the local hospital.

“The goal of our camp was to introduce students to what we do at our school as well as to demonstrate the importance of technical education and how it can be applied to most academic fields,” said ATC Principal Juston Pate.

“This was a great partnership between the area technology center, the college, and other local agencies,” said Dr. Augusta A. Julian, MCTC’s president and CEO. “We all have a stake in kids experiencing a variety of careers so they can make good choices of what to study.”

Students went from one location to another - first visiting four program areas at the ATC, including electrical, office, automotive and machine tool technologies. They also went to the community college before making their way to the police, fire and corrections departments and the hospital which demonstrated health care occupations in real-life settings. Each classroom offered hands-on learning involving different projects.



Electrical Technology Instructor David Collins teaches a student about wiring a circuit.

While students found it fun to learn how to wire a circuit or climb aboard a fire truck, they were really being exposed to the series of events that could lead them from a secondary education, to a postsecondary institution and on to the workforce.

“I wanted to learn about everything,” said Kayla Carver about the Mason County camp. Kayla is an incoming ninth grade student from Lewis County and said she hopes to join the Air Force one day and fly planes.

The ATC staff along with KCTCS personnel and community service leaders made the project a success by guiding students through the camp programs creating not only a learning environment, but an enjoyable experience.



Melanie Jamison watches as students build their own web page.

“Students actually wired a lighting circuit controlled by a single pole switch,” said Electrical Technology Instructor David Collins, of his class. “The students did their own work with shop tools and oral and written instructions. Each day of training included a field trip through the Mitsubishi Electric Manufacturing plant. The folks at Mitsubishi really made the tour interesting for the students.”

Melanie Jamison, office technology instructor helped students navigate a web page.

“This was a great opportunity for students to see what we offer in our school,” she said.

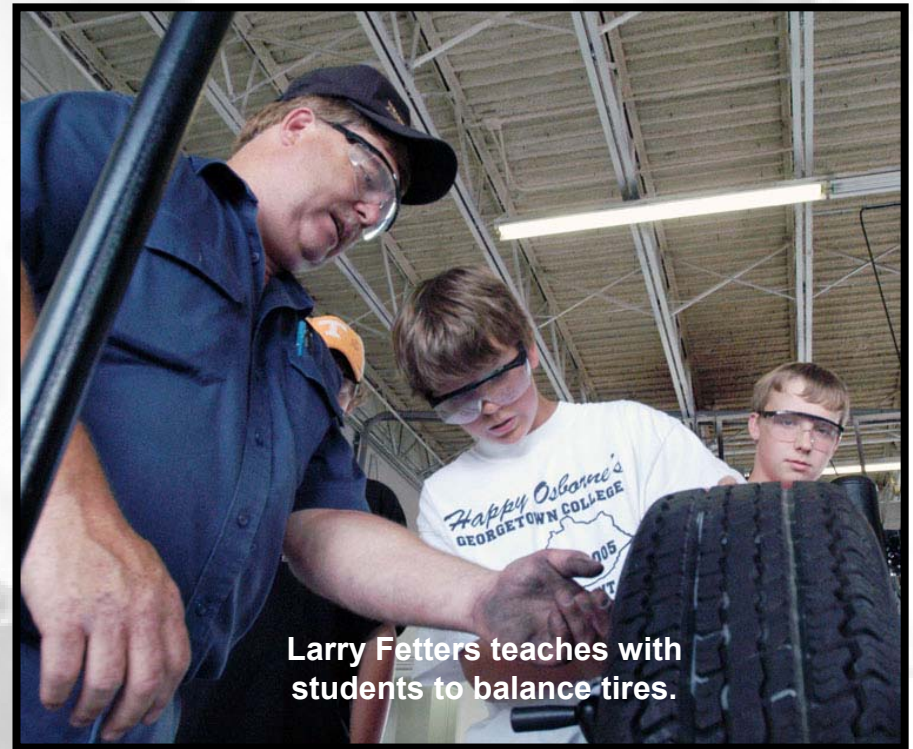
Automotive Technology Instructor Larry Feters taught the basics of balancing tires and checking brakes.

“Students really enjoyed the hands-on approach to education, and the fact that they could apply something they learned to a task,” he said.

Jason Calvert, auto body repair instructor, introduced students to basic collision repair with the use of automobile fenders.

“The career camp had a very positive impact on the students and the tech center. I think a lot of students were surprised by what they were able to do,” he said.

“The camp benefited our future students, our staff and the community,” said Mr. Pate. “We want every student to have the opportunity to explore their options in education and life.”



Larry Feters teaches with students to balance tires.

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